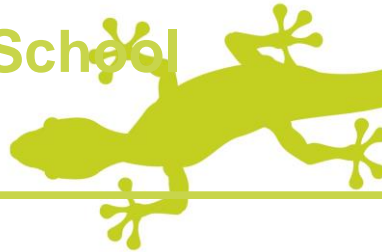


# THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

May, 2018



## Message from the Head Teacher, Mr J Rielly

Once again, with SATs week completed, I am feeling incredibly proud of year 6 pupils at West Moors Middle School. Attendance was 100% for all those entered for the test and there was a superb, 'can-do' attitude throughout the week. Thank you to pupils and parents alike for their commitment and conscientiousness in the lead-up to these national tests. Now, the focus is on preparing pupils' writing portfolios so that teacher assessments can be submitted before the end of June.



Work has begun on the exciting new addition to our school which will be ready from September 2018. As previously communicated, from next academic year, West Moors Middle School will host a resourced base for children with complex communication needs (CCN). We are calling our base Chameleon HQ. This name ties in with our school house system being linked to lizard names, signifying also that this facility is very much an integrated



part of the school - not something separate. Also, a Chameleon needs to constantly change its colours to adapt to its surroundings and our HQ will do just that! It will adapt to the needs of each child/group of children that are within it whilst helping them to learn how to adapt to the constantly changing nature of school and all its social intricacies.

Chameleon HQ will host 5 pupils initially, with 5 more being included in 12 months' time. Funding will be available to develop buildings, purchase resources and employ specialist staff. We have already appointed Mrs H Jones who will join us shortly after half term to start her position as Lead Teacher for Chameleon HQ. All staff will also benefit from 2 days of specialist training this coming term, to equip them for teaching children with communication needs.



This initiative will be a benefit to **all** pupils. Teaching strategies that will be helpful to children with CCN will improve clarity and focus for all pupils. There will need to be an increased emphasis on creating an appropriate environment throughout the school such as especially quiet and orderly behaviour in the corridors. This cultural shift will benefit many pupils. Finally, children with CCN are in all schools – however, not all schools have the advantage of a specialist provision.

## Year 8 School Cycling Games at Moors Valley

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 we took part in the school games cycling event in Moors Valley. When we arrived we had a talk about the bikes and found out how to use the gears and breaks. Then we got to try out the bikes and see the track, which had lots of twists and turns, bumps, slopes and hills. The first race we competed in was the time trial where we had to race around the track one time in our school groups to get your time for completing the race. When it came to the racing the loose sandy ground made tight turns really difficult and we had to get used to the gear changes to handle the uphill climbs. Then the school split up into teams of four or five to compete in the relay, where you were given one bike, which would be passed on to each team member so they could complete the track. The last race that we took part in was where we were put into groups, which had similar finishing times and we raced twice around the track in the final race. Today was great fun and it has really made me enjoy the outdoors.

Written by Year 8 competitors.



## Science

We have been extremely busy in Science doing lots of different practical experiments linked to the topics we have been learning. Here are just a few of the things we have been up to:

### Year 5 salt crystals

Year 5 have been investigating dissolving and evaporating. They made super saturated solutions and left the water to evaporate over a few weeks. They were amazed to see snowy white salt crystals overflowing the beakers.



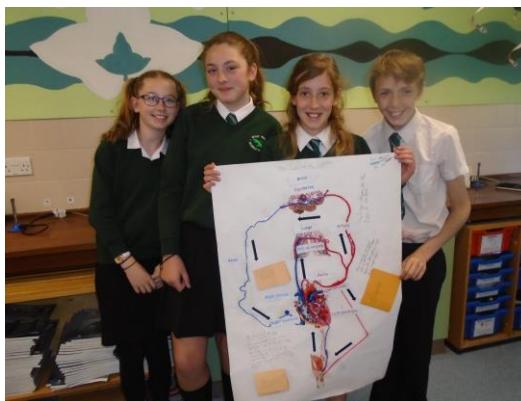
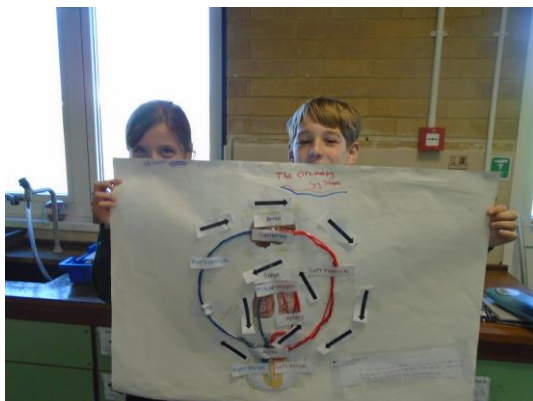
### Year 5 Jelly Stones

Year 5 also had fun watching the amazing jelly stones expand in water from tiny specks to large cubes. They left them to see if the stones would change back to their original size which they did. Many year 5 children took the stones home to try again.



## Year 6 Circulatory System

Year 6 have been very creative in lessons making a model of our circulatory system from pipe cleaners, tubing, buttons and wool. They have been able to show the flow of oxygenated and deoxygenated blood and explain the differences between arteries, veins and capillaries. Well done year 6.



## Skylarks science challenge.

This challenge was to create a DNA model using materials of your choice. Thank you for all the brilliant entries.

KS2 winner with an edible model made from sweets is Caitlin Izzard.

KS3 winner with a model made by recycling plastic straws is Danielle Teed.

Congratulations to both students.



## Sponsored Swim to raise money for Battens Disease

Two of our year 6 girls did a sponsored swim to raise money for the Battens Disease Charity. They raised an amazing £297.98. Well done to them both.



## Food Technology

Year 5 and Year 6 have really enjoyed being back in the kitchen for the first time this year. There have been lots of lovely smells wafting down the corridors. They've made soda bread and oat crunchies. They even do the washing up! There are lots of nice recipes to come next term.



## FOWMMS (PTFA) Summer Fayre Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June

FOWMMS will be holding their popular annual summer fayre on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 6-8pm. There will be many stalls including tombola, raffle, penalty shootout, henna tattoos and many more external stallholders. There will also be American cars, army assault course, candy floss, hot dogs and burgers, Prosecco and strawberries and live music. This is always a hugely successful and fun evening, we hope you can come along.

It will be a mufti (non-uniform) day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June and instead of a donation could children please bring in wine or a bottle. Thankyou

## **School Year: Term Dates & Holidays 2018/19**

### Autumn Term:

Term starts for students on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
Term ends on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Term starts for students on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Term ends on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December

### Spring Term:

Term starts for students on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January  
Term ends on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

Term starts for students on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
Term ends on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term:

Term starts for students on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
Bank Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May. School closed  
Term ends on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Term starts for students on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
Term ends on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

### **Inset Days:**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

## Dates to remember

Date	Event
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Students return to school
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole school theatre trip 'Warhorse'
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Non-school uniform day. Please bring in wine or a bottle for the Summer Fair. <b>SUMMER FAYRE from 6pm</b>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Inset day. <b>No pupils in school.</b>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June – 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Fairthorne Manor Residential Trip
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr7 to Ferndown Upper School Fun day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Transfer Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Parents Induction Evening 7 – 8pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Production 6.30pm
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 8 Leavers Ceremony
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 8 Leavers Trip
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Term Ends – students in school full day. 3.25pm finish

\*Please note: there are times when we are offered opportunities at the 'last minute' which means we are unable to give parents a lot of notice. There may, therefore, be additional events that take place which are not detailed above.